Identify all the internal ecclesiastical power struggles and doctrinal conflicts in Christendom from 100 A.D. to 313 A.D.

Key Points

- Research indicates that early Christianity from 100 to 313 AD faced numerous doctrinal conflicts, primarily heresies challenging core beliefs like Christ's nature, the Trinity, scripture's authority, and salvation, often influenced by Gnosticism, Judaism, or pagan philosophy.
- Power struggles centered on emerging ecclesiastical authority, such as the rise of monarchical bishops, jurisdictional disputes between sees (e.g., Rome vs. Asia Minor), and debates over discipline during persecutions, which sometimes led to schisms.
- Evidence leans toward Gnostic sects like Valentinianism and Marcionism as major doctrinal threats in the 2nd century, while 3rd-century issues like Novatianism and Donatism arose from persecution-related purity debates; resolutions often involved writings by Church Fathers, local synods, or imperial intervention, though some persisted.
- The period shows a trend toward centralization, with Rome gaining influence, but controversies highlight regional differences and the lack of universal mechanisms for resolution until after 313 AD.

Continue conversation

Doctrinal Conflicts Overview